

Is El Paso Really Serious?

Did El Paso take a step forward when, in the fall of 1915, a band of public spirited citizens under the auspices of the chamber of commerce, launched the playground and recreation center movement, or was it merely the adoption of a fad that would die out in a few months, or at most a year?

El Pasoans are asking themselves these questions, and groping about for an answer. Over a year has elapsed since the movement was started, but less than a year has passed by since the system was actually inaugurated. There has hardly been time to make a test. It is still very much of an experiment, locally speaking.

One thing is certain: The eyes of the country are upon El Paso. This may not be generally known, but it is a fact, nevertheless. El Paso is being watched. El Paso, it seems, is the first of southwestern cities to take up the playground and recreation center movement, and it is realized that the spread of the movement in this section depends largely upon El Paso's success. Added interest is attached to the city's departure by reason of the belief that the movement in time may spread to those portions of Mexico that are more or less influenced by American customs—particularly after peace shall have returned to that revolution-ridden country.

The fact that El Paso is being watched makes it necessary that her citizenship proceed carefully in arriving at a decision whether she is merely flirting with a fad, or is really serious in her social service undertakings. There should be no hasty decision arrived at after a few months of experiment under the handicap of lack of equipment and more or less skepticism. Consideration should be given to the fact that the playground and recreation center movement has nowhere been abandoned where once taken up, and that on the other hand more attention is being given to the work each year, with additional cities taking up the work. Conditions may be different in El Paso from those in some of the cities that have found merit in the movement, yet a few months of experiment cannot be taken as conclusive proof.

It seems, however, that unless the city council soon

makes provision for carrying on the playground work during the coming summer, the movement, in its larger scope, is destined to die. No provision has, as yet, been made for carrying on the work, and there have been forthcoming no promises that something will be done at a later date. Supervised play at the various schools during the school terms will continue. Supervised play has become a part of the school system during the winter months, even if the playground movement, as a city institution, ceases to exist. Just now the various playground supervisors work under the general supervision of J. H. Stine, supervisor of playgrounds, whose salary is being paid out of a fund of \$7500 appropriated by the city and school board; but if no fund is provided for the coming year, the supervisors will probably continue their work during the school term under the direction of Supt. R. J. Tighe, so long as the present system of schedules is followed in the schools.

Tahan, a half breed Indian—an Osage whose father was one of Custer's scouts—is a brilliant and witty man who dresses himself up in full Indian garb, blanket, fringed trousers and all, and delivers a lecture, "From Savagery to Civilization." In the lecture he has a joke on the white Americans who brag about their ancestry. He used it in Boston to tease the descendants of the Mayflower passengers, saying, "Though I cannot boast that any of my people came over on the Mayflower, some of them were probably on the reception committee."

Connecticut has no more abandoned farms. The automobile has made country life accessible to city folk. There is nothing a commuter likes better than a little farm with an old house to remodel and fit up with plumbing and steam pipes. The fortunes of the Connecticut farm have turned entirely from a despised and neglected state to a prized and coddled and spoiled darling position.

Mr. Dornblaser of Texas amused congress, the newspaper men and the country when he spoke against preparedness and in answer to some one's inquiry as to whether he had a cyclone cellar or not, retorted, "Yes, but, by golly, one is enough. A fellow would be a fool to build two."

Does a Dog Think?

It will always be a moot question between the sentiment of the dog lover who claims intelligence for his four footed friend and the scientifically indifferent who says the animals have no intellect.

The dog barking at his master's door seems a very intelligent creature making his wants known, but the cynics will say his bark is only a nervous performance, which his instinct prompts him to do, his smell having taught him the way home. It would take imagination, the cynic says, for that dog to know that when he barks, some one will hear and open the door for him and give him his supper; and imagination, says the cynic, is the one thing that separates man from all the rest of created life.

But one remembers the remark of the natural philosopher who always said he "liked most dogs better than some men."

Everyone uses the phrase "at least once in a blue moon," but one rarely hears otherwise of a moon that is blue. However, one English county reports that a recent moon looked blue to it and if a blue moon ever happens it is in a mild winter, so perhaps along with other sky phenomena El Paso may have a chance to see the moon blue and use it to date by and remember by. A blue moon is an astronomical record as having occurred December 10, 1883.

The Kansas City Star commenting on changes in kissing, especially in the censorship of the long kiss from 20 feet of film to 10 film feet, per kiss, evidently is no believer in the censored kiss and hoots at the hero in a movie kissing the heroine's hand, saying this is never done in real life, at least not in Kansas.

Congress is not the only outfit that puts in most of its time discussing deficiencies.

Britain's war bill already totals \$10,000,000,000, nearly 10 times the American national debt.

Arizona asking for appropriations to control floods would be a joke if it were not the sequel of grim tragedy.

An Astonishing Woman

An actress in London, Rose Stahl, has shocked her manager, her fellow actors, a play book writer, and newspaper men by refusing a good part in a new play because she was too old for it.

It is next to unbelievable that any actress should recognize time limitations for herself. Most humans on the stage, or off it and before the life curtain, are openly or secretly of the belief that they themselves are just about exactly the right age.

When we first bloom we are all sure there is no other age. The ripper one gets, the more one is inclined to think that the first bloom is rather rapid, not equal to the prime, or the fullness of life after blooming.

The National Association of Merchant Tailors is not so successful in promulgating fashions as the dressmakers. They have no fiat that men's wear will be shorter or longer or striped or wider around the hem. All they can meekly say is that they will earnestly try to raise the standard of men's attire. There are so few men who care a copper about their clothes that it is a wonder how tailors make a living, when dressmakers find it so hard even with so many women caring for nothing else in the world but dress.

An olive branch in his right claw, a sheaf of arrows in his left. That is the American Eagle, whose portrait, in various postures and degrees of dress and undress, appears on our coins and national seals. The significance apparently is that the old bird is for peace with us, but he does not shrink preparedness for uninvited trouble.

Automobile users argue that preparedness will mean good roads, as motors will necessarily be largely used in any scheme for national defense, so out of the evil thought of war, some good will come.

The "fire in munitions plant" headline might as well be kept standing.

Britain is anxiously watching to see where Germany will break out along the 10,000 miles front.

Short Snatches From Everywhere.

Ida Tarbell says the ultimate aim of all girls is matrimony. Why the ultimate?—Hochester Times.

Britain has cut down on its naval gold braid, it is said, but the prodigality of red tape apparently continues.—Newark News.

By watching the debates in congress one is enabled to locate the districts in which the hyphen flourishes best.—Hochester Herald.

The Fort Scott Tribune's idea of misery is to have locomotors at stake in walking typhoid at the same time.—Kansas City Star.

The neutralist neutrality yet recorded is that of Billy Sunday, who says he wants to be a colonel "like Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Bryan."—New York Herald.

The indications are that for a long time to come Wall Street will make an earnest endeavor to keep out of the United States supreme court.—Cleveland Leader.

According to Admiral Beatty, England must "get religion" to win the war, but putting the fear of God in the other fellow sounds more practical.—Wall Street Journal.

The strongest argument brought forward in favor of Mr. Brandeis is that Wall Street disapproves of him. This has put many a candidate for office over.—Portland Press.

It has been decided that King George will not open parliament in person. In view of what happened at Ottawa, perhaps it is just as well.—Syracuse Post-Standard.

An astrologer named Gustave Meyer says the stars tell him that Germany will declare the war. No doubt the stars can speak French and English just as well.—Washington Herald.

The fact that Col. House's visit has mystified the French is just another illustration of how strong is the sense of understanding between the peoples of the two great republics.—New York Herald.

We desire (business of throwing out the chest) to join in the protest against the advancing price of gasoline—we sometimes use the stuff to remove soup-spoons from our vest.—Union.

A number of newspapers are laying particular stress upon the fact that Mr. Brandeis is a Jew. So also was that early representative of the judiciary, Moses.—New York Morning Telegraph.

Some Spaniards are declaring that Gen. Weyler is too good to assume the chairmanship of the general staff of the army. They are not suggesting him as minister to Cuba, however.—Havana Post.

Leap Year Is a Kindly Act Of Kind Providence Intended To Reduce Visible Supply Of Old Maids

By HOWARD L. RANN.

LEAP YEAR is an act of providence, which is intended to reduce the visible supply of old maids. Providence has performed many kind and helpful acts, but when she freed woman from the thralldom of being obliged to accept the first bench-legged suitor who presented himself or an unwelcome to the grave, she rose to majestic heights.

Prior to the institution of leap year woman was wholly at the mercy of man. She was wooed with a club and given in marriage in exchange for a pair of long-horned oxen. Strange as it may seem, there were husbands in those days who became dissatisfied with their bargain and offered to trade back, no questions being asked on either side. Society today would spare a man who bought a sprightly wife with natural teeth for two milk cows and then tried to exchange her for an equity in a second hand runabout. Society is willing to trade wives for titles, but draws the line at live stock, which shows how fast civilization is advancing in this country.

Leap year is a living terror to old bachelors who have been eating up

angel's food cake and electric light current at the home of some fair damsel for 12 or 15 years, without getting down



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to the real business of the meeting. There is no sweeter display of righteous retribution in this vale of tears than to see a reluctant bachelor with a gleaming dime lead to the altar by a reluctant bride-alert whose hands and feet have been tormented for years without practical results. The period of courtship is a sacred era, but when it becomes an age and then graduates into an age, it is time for the imperious will of woman to assert itself and yank a tailoring swain to his knees.

Leap year is lame in one respect. It comes only once in four years, and sometimes it skips over eight. This causes long, painful hiatus, during which woman has to take what she can get. We admire and respect woman, but there are times when it seems to us that her judgment is eight or ten degrees below par, whereas if leap year came about twice a month, she would be able to pick a better and more lasting grade of husband, one who would not run out nights and try to drink the weekly output of a brewery. Leap year is an aid to intelligent matrimony, but it is too long between leaps. (Protect by the Adams Newspaper Service.)

and want to supplement her statements with a few facts and figures.

It is conceded that Arizona has the only genuine prohibition law in the country, making no exceptions or concessions. Its provisions are what its opponents called radical and yet it has grown in popularity from the time of its adoption until today it is the most popular law in the state and both its friends and enemies have been convinced that it is not only a prohibition law in name but in practice and yet never now hear in Arizona the old cry, "Prohibition does not prohibit."

The records show that in the state there have been nearly 100 prosecutions on account of its violation and only two or three acquittals have been secured. Whether trials have been in counties which gave dry majorities, or in counties which gave dry majorities, the juries promptly returned verdicts of guilty and it has mastered not whether the offender was of high or low degree.

Since prohibition went into effect the police force of Phoenix has been cut from 35 to 14 members and could stand a further cut. The chain gangs that disgrace to a civilized nation have gone and the town superintendents who had charge of these gangs have been employed in more honorable positions.

At the October term, 1914, of the federal court there were 65 persons under indictment for selling liquor to Indians. Only two or three indictments have been returned for this offense the past year.

Crime over the state has most wonderfully decreased and more especially the crimes of murder and assault. The receipts at jails, asylums and the penitentiary have wonderfully decreased.

The city of Phoenix has lost the revenue from the license of its 25 saloons and yet the city tax rate has been reduced this year. The cost of

ABE MARTIN



Who remembers th' ole-fashioned beau who leaned on th' gate-post an' kicked a hole in th' ground? A young mother kin allus furnish an alibi.

(Protect by the Adams Newspaper Service.)

were only 145 arrests for this offense. On Sept. 15, under saloon rule, there were 103 arrests for drunkenness, while on Sept. 15, 1915, under prohibition, there was not a single arrest for this offense.

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Individual Preparedness Is Often Overlooked Knowing What Not To Do Vitaly Important

IN the question of preparedness, people do not quite realize the importance of being individually trained to help," said Dr. C. F. Braden.

"At the time of the Spanish-American war a great amount of confusion arose from the uneducated and unorganized hands of volunteer helpers for nursing and caring for the wounded. To remedy this the United States congress made the National Red Cross society the only channel through which volunteer aid would be received. Preference is given in every case to the person who has had first aid training under Red Cross society direction, because in handling emergency cases it is sometimes more important to know what not to do than what to do, and an ignorant person can do a terrific amount of harm, no matter how good the intention may be."

"It is impossible for the people of the east, who have not traveled or lived in the west, to grasp the extent of the vast distances of the west," said S. P. Morris of Denver. "Because all of the big cities of the east are situated within a day's journey of each other, it is difficult to get eastern people to realize the fact that out here they are long journeys apart. If every citizen of preparedness were to take a little journey from Brownsville to Yuma, traveling along the border, it would make them realize the need for

feeding prisoners is more than \$200 per month less than formerly.

The total paid for policemen's salaries has been reduced approximately \$15,000 per year. The care and burden of the charitable institutions of the city has been materially lessened.

The credit map of Boston and the credit map of St. Louis both show the state of Arizona first in prosperity of all locations in America. Do you wonder we are proud of our state. These are a few of the facts and figures of the operation of genuine prohibition for one year in the state of Arizona and to a certainty the state will never take a backward step and return to rum rule.

A. H. Hamilton, from Arizona.

STREET CAR LAWS.

Editor El Paso Herald: Friday evening while on car No. 88 on the First Blue line, there were quite a number of passengers on the car, and all the seats were taken, including

increased artillery and cavalry immediately.

"Ham and eggs began to get pretty scarce recently, along towards the last, during the recent flood in the Gila river," said J. J. Ormiston, Hayden, Ariz. "Hayden did not suffer except that the place was without railroad communication for about two weeks. Below us, three miles, there were four deaths from drowning, and a part of the community was left on an island by a change in the river's course."

"The question of whether bituminous or concrete should be used, recently agitated the people of Oregon in the matter of building the Columbia river road, that will cost considerably over \$1,000,000," said A. J. McCumbe of Houston. "The fight resulted in a victory for bituminous, to the effect that advocates of each material. California's concrete roads came in for discussion, but when the final vote came bituminous won."

"There are a few cities in Texas larger than El Paso, but give me this town every time for real business and well paved streets," said David McCann, of Port Worth. "When people leave El Paso, believe me, they are leaving a real city, and when they come back they have something to come to. Despite the size of Dallas, Houston and Port Worth, El Paso is the most talked of city in eastern Texas, and a part of men leave these cities every month to seek homes in the west, and El Paso

the two seats reserved for negroes, which were occupied by two women and a small girl. On last Boulevard, two negroes got on and the conductor told them to get out of the seats and stand in the car."

Another thing: The conductors enforce the Jim Crow law, why not conduct them to enforce the same law? On this time, as you will notice some of the four cars have no ventilation for air, still most every man is smoking on the car.

You have to endure this or sit by an open window with cold air coming in on you. I say make the conductors obey both laws or none. F. M. G.

(It is a law of Texas that anyone equal in character of its accommodations to that provided for whites, must be provided in street cars for the use of negroes. As a matter of fact, it is against the law for whites to ride in these seats at any time, but when no negroes are on the cars, conductors offer also white passengers the seats as an accommodation. As for smoking, it is against the city ordinance to permit smoking in street cars, except on the rear platform. Smoking can be indulged in there, regardless of the ventilation of the cars. Outside the city limits, on Fort Bliss cars, this ordinance is not in effect and cannot be enforced.—Editor.)

BIRDS AS PESTS.

Editor El Paso Herald: On going into my garden yesterday I found the lettuce that I had been nursing so carefully, eaten by the birds, while about 40 more were finishing off the spinach, in fact the only thing left of it were a few roots. Where I fed the chickens, a flock of a hundred or more birds appropriated the feed. On going to the north garden, I found the birds eating the violet buds and finishing the first rose leaves. I said then that I supposed some sickly sentimental would run into the garden with a heart-rending appeal to the

in particular. There is something doing here all the time."

"By the withdrawal of the men stationed at the two international bridges, we have been enabled to use shifts of four men each at the police station, instead of one and two, as formerly," said Lieut. N. W. Campola. "During daytime there is a shift of three privates and one corporal stationed at the police headquarters, and which I believe adds greatly to the efficiency of the guard. In the event of trouble, two men can be sent on the first call, leaving two at the station for an emergency. There is very little cause for the use of the guard at the station now, however."

"My attention having been called to a statement which appeared on Feb. 5 in 'The Spectator' to the effect that more teachers have resigned from the El Paso schools during the present year than in any previous 10 years," I have caused an investigation to be made, and am in receipt of a letter written by the auditor and assistant secretary of the board, showing that it is without foundation," said Ed. M. Whitaker, president of the school board. "The reply of Messrs. Tighe and Sawyer shows that during the school year of 1914-15 there were 21 resignations, including two principals. In the school year of 1913-14, the number rose to 21 resignations, all teachers. During the present year, from Sept. 1 to date there have been 12 resignations recorded in the minutes."

public to spare the dear little birds, so I was not surprised to find a letter from Mrs. Porter if she had spent years in growing and caring for an orchard and then was unable to derive any benefit from her labor, she would get a new bird, and she would get a new bird, and she would get a new bird. From the time the blossoms are out when they pick them off and throw them away and one bird will destroy 40 in the time it takes to pick them when they promptly pick a hole in every red cheek, thus ruining it, they are a nuisance and a destructive agent. When grapes begin to ripen they suck the juice from every berry on the bunch. Later they take every cherry as it turns red, before it ripens. Every apricot and plum that falls, each that is particularly fine. Later they eat the apples. It is not a question of a few, as Mrs. Porter states. It is the ruin of the whole crop of berries. It has got to be a hardy bird, fit and willing for a car on the plaza, on account of the mass these same dear little creatures make."

One day last week, a teacher in one of the grades informed the pupils that she had no use for anyone who hurt the dear little birds. Personally I have no use for anyone who has not mind enough to investigate a subject before delivering an opinion. If more people will inform themselves, they will find that the birds destroy whole fields of grain, not alone by eating the kernels but by breaking the straw so that it cannot be harvested, and are justly regarded as pests. This will be the case in this valley if steps are not soon taken to mitigate the evil.

Another Mother.

PARADE OF PETS IN APRIL.

A pet parade will be held in April under the auspices of the Humane society. This was decided at a meeting of the directors of the society Monday afternoon. The parade will be given for the children of the city to show their pet dogs, cats and rabbits.

Workers

IT'S good to work, with might and main, until the workday ends; it's good to work, in sun or rain—but do not work your friends. The toiler's worthy of his hire, wherever he may be, though he be punishing a lyre or chopping down a tree; though he be furrowing the loam, that harvest may abound, 'tis labor brings the bacon home, and makes the wheels go round. Renowned for toiling with a vim the true distinction lends; so work until the light grows dim—but do not work your friends. The willing worker seldom sees the lean wolf at his door; he has his wienersurst and chews an dither grub in store. Men's admiration he commands, no matter where he wends; he does his work with both his hands, but does not work his friends. There is no sadder, punker sight, in any neighborhood, than is the husky, lary wight who's cut out work for good. We all have seen his maulin tear, have heard his whining, tawny; a guilder there, a kroner here, from all of us he bones. To gain a dime this chameleon shik to lowest depths descends; for when a man quits useful work, he starts to work his friends.

(Protect by the Adams Newspaper Service.) WALT MASON.

EL PASO HERALD

DEDICATED TO THE SERVICE OF THE PEOPLE, THAT NO GOOD CAUSE SHALL LACK A CHAMPION, AND THAT EVIL SHALL NOT THRIVE UNOPPOSED.

H. D. Slater, editor and controlling owner, has directed The Herald for 18 years; J. C. Wilmarth is Manager and G. A. Martin is News Editor.

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SOMEBODY IS ALWAYS TAKING THE JOY OUT OF LIFE---BRIGGS

